

UNDERWAY INSPECTION OF WOOD SPVs

DIRECTIVES AFFECTED:

CIDIG MEMO #10 dated 12Apr94 is superceded.

DISCUSSION:

Wood hull small passenger vessels require increased attention in order to assess their hull integrity. Evidence gathered in several casualty reports, including the EL TORO II, indicated that early detection and action might have lessened the fatalities resulting in each accident. At each inspection for certification and re-inspection, it is necessary to conduct an underway assessment of a wood hull small passenger vessel's seaworthiness. When conducting underway inspections, pay particular attention to the following:

- Frequent need to operate bilge pumps
- Installation of additional bilge pumps
- Increased capacity of replacement bilge pumps
- Dark areas in hull indicating wood decay or fastener wastage
- Hull working when the vessel is underway

Evidence of any of the above may indicate a vessels lack of seaworthiness.

ITEMS EXAMINED:

Prior to getting credit for a drydock examination, wood hulled SPVs are required to conduct an operational test underway. This underway test is not to be waived. In addition to the examining the above items, the marine inspector will closely examine any areas repaired or renewed and all sea valves, and will verify satisfactory operation of fixed fire main suction(s) and engine cooling water suction(s), if installed.

CONDITIONS:

The operational test should be conducted under conditions similar to those on the COI.